



# Class 9 - Chapter 5

- Healing of Crippled Man at Pool of Bethesda, on the Sabbath
- Jesus Claims to be God!!
- The 2 Resurrections, Judgement
- Witnesses to Jesus - The Baptist, His Miracles, the Father and Scripture

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# Main Message of Chapter 5

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- **Who is Jesus Christ: Jesus is God!**
- Jesus makes the most extensive declaration of His deity in the Gospels in Chapter 5.
  - Either Jesus is a madman or a liar (the devil), or He is God. There are no other alternatives.
- Jesus provides witnesses to support His claims

# Healing of Cripple in Jerusalem

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- Jesus and his disciples head back to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals (Passover or Tabernacles).
- the Pool of Bethesda was just one of several pools around Jerusalem where sick people would gather hoping to be healed. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k5Bj1V8irUU>
- Time period – “**after these things**” (5:1) – means that John’s record of Jesus’ Galilee ministry is finished, with only one event in Galilee recorded (healing of Nobleman’s son) and He is now back in Jerusalem now.
- The Synoptic Gospels describe many more events in Galilee not mentioned here (Jesus’ rejection at Nazareth; demon exorcisms; Peter’s mother-in-law; leper; paralytic; etc.) In fact from Mark 1:14-9:50 is all His Galilean ministry.

## John 5:1-9

# 3<sup>rd</sup> SIGN – Healing of Cripple in Jerusalem

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- V.6 – Jesus knew (**supernaturally**) he had been in that condition a long time - 38 years (**Deut. 2:14 allusion?**)
- Jesus focuses on the man's need and offers him healing.
- Jesus spoke, just as in creation, “Rise, take up your bed and walk”, and this man's body was re-created whole.
- **1<sup>st</sup> step in salvation is a deep desire for it.** 38 years shows persistence, but this man is not painted as a hero by John as shown by his later betrayal of Jesus to the authorities.
- Unlike the paralytic of Mark 2:1-12 who is dropped in front of Jesus and who has faith, Jesus picks this invalid among the many others, and the **man has NO FAITH (no reason given).**
- **Illustrates God's sovereign grace – the “ELECT”**

## John 5:9-16

# Healing Was on the Sabbath, KEY to the Passage (v.16)

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- Sabbath healing begins opposition of the authorities.
- **Jesus deliberately chose the Sabbath to perform this miracle**, as in numerous events in Jesus' ministry, to confront the legalistic system of their lack of repentance and self-righteousness, and to demonstrate that **compassion trumps man-made ritual**.
- It's shocking that the man who was healed then shows loyalty to the Jewish authorities.
- Jesus' warning to "**sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you**", infers that this man's illness was the result of specific personal sin (**1 Cor 11:28-30; Deut. 28:58-61**).
- Persecution to kill Jesus begins now in John.

## GOSPEL OF MARK

# Jesus Heals on the Sabbath, & Pharisees Plot to Kill Him

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- **Mark 3:1-6** <sup>1</sup> And He entered the synagogue again, and a man was there who had a withered hand. <sup>2</sup> So **they watched Him closely, whether He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him**....
  - <sup>5</sup> And when He had **looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.”** And he stretched *it* out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other. <sup>6</sup> **Then the Pharisees went out and immediately plotted with the Herodians against Him, how they might destroy Him.**
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- **Mark 2:23-28** <sup>23</sup> Now it happened that He went through the grainfields on the Sabbath; and as they went His disciples began to pluck the heads of grain. <sup>24</sup> And **the Pharisees said to Him, “Look, why do they do what is not lawful on the Sabbath?”** ...
  - <sup>27</sup> **And He said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. <sup>28</sup> Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath.”**

# Jesus is “Lord of the Sabbath”

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- Sabbath was ordained by God in Genesis 2:3, and therefore God is Lord of the Sabbath
- **4<sup>th</sup> Commandment** – Ex 20:8-11: “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but **the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God.**” (also Ex 31:12-17; Deut 5:12-15)
- the Sabbath rest was instituted to relieve man of his labors, just as Jesus came to relieve us of our attempting to achieve salvation by our works (Heb 3:11; 4)
- The Pharisees regarded the Sabbath as one of the most important traditions of Jewish religion.
- **Therefore Jesus was claiming to be God in this statement**

## SCRIPTURE John 5:17-24

# Jesus Claims Equality with the Father

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- <sup>17</sup> But Jesus answered them, “My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.”
- <sup>18</sup> Therefore the **Jews sought all the more to kill Him**, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also **said that God was His Father, making Himself** them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do **equal with God**.”
- <sup>19</sup> Then Jesus answered and said to thing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.
- <sup>20</sup> For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.
- <sup>21</sup> **For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to *them*, even so the Son gives life to whom He will.**
- <sup>22</sup> **For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, <sup>23</sup> that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.**



## John 5:17-24

# Jesus Claims Equality with the Father

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- The most important question mankind must answer is:
  - **Who is Jesus Christ?** (“**who do you say I am**” Mark 8:29)
- Ironically, Jesus’ own testimony is seldom considered.
- **Many times Jesus claimed to be God.** Either you believe the Bible is the Word of God and is true, or you believe that you know more about what was true 2,000 years ago than the eyewitness accounts of the most well attested document of the ancient world.
- If you deny Jesus is God, then you deny the entire Bible.
- **Salvation depends on believing this Truth.**

## John 5:17-24

# Jesus is God – other Scripture

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- John 4:25-26

- <sup>25</sup> The woman said to Him, “**I know that Messiah is coming**” (who is called Christ). “When He comes, He will tell us all things.”
- <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “**I who speak to you am He.**”

- John 8:23-24

- <sup>23</sup> And He said to them, “**You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world.** <sup>24</sup> Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for **if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.**”

- John 14:9

- <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father;**

- Mark 14:61-62

- Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, “**Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?**”
- <sup>62</sup> Jesus said, “**I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.**”

## John 5:17-24

# Jesus is Equal to God – **IN WORKS**

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- V.17 – all rabbis believed that God continues to work on the Sabbath and cannot be charged with breaking the law.
- Therefore Jesus was claiming equality with God by calling God His Father and that He was above the Laws given to man (considered Blasphemy, deserving of death).
- V.19 – like a carpentry parable – apprentice son does what his father does – He is claiming that whatever the Father Does, He also does (submissively), making Him equal with the Father.
- V.20 – Jesus makes a prediction that He will perform even more spectacular deeds.

## John 5:21

# Jesus is Equal to God – IN POWER

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- **Only God can give life to the physically dead**
  - God raised the dead in: 1 Kings 17:17-24; 2 Kings 4:32-37; 13:20-21
- Only God can give spiritual life (Col 2:13)
- **John 1:4 stated that “in Him was life”, meaning the source of life itself.**
- so unlike Elijah who merely acted as God’s representative when he raised the dead, Jesus is God Himself.

## John 5:22

# Jesus is Equal to God – IN JUDGEMENT

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- God is the judge of all the earth
  - **Gen 18:25; 1 Sam 2:10; Ps 94:2; 96:13**
- God has given all judgement to the Son
- Although judgement was not the primary purpose of Christ's first coming (John 3:17; 12:47), it is the inescapable result of rejecting the salvation He offers (John 3:18)
- **Judgement will occur on the Second Coming**
  - (“Day of the Lord” when God pours out His wrath on unbelievers)
  - 2 Thess 1:6-8; Rev 20:11-15

## John 5:23

# Jesus is Equal to God – **IN HONOUR**

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- **ASTONISHING** - Jesus now takes His claims to a new level, telling the religious authorities they must honor and worship Him.



“I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I’m ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don’t accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”

— **C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity**

(most profound & frequently quoted conclusion one can reach from this previous passage)

## John 5:24

# Life and Judgment Are Through the Son

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<sup>24</sup> “Most assuredly, I say to you, **he who hears My word and believes** in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgement, but **has passed from death into life**.

- This is the Spiritual Resurrection upon Salvation, Born Again, Baptised with the Holy Spirit.
- Notice: Eternal life is not in the future, but is **NOW!!**

## SCRIPTURE John 5:25-29

# Jesus Gives Life to the Dead

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- <sup>25</sup> Most assuredly, I say to you, the **hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.**
- <sup>26</sup> For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, <sup>27</sup> and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.
- <sup>28</sup> **Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice** <sup>29</sup> and come forth—those who have done good, to the **resurrection of life**, and those who have done evil, to the **resurrection of condemnation.**



## John 5:21

# POWER to RAISE THE DEAD

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- **Deuteronomy 32:39** <sup>39</sup> ‘Now see that I, *even I, am* He, And *there is* no God besides Me; **I kill and I make alive**; I wound and I heal...
- **1 Samuel 2:6** <sup>6</sup> “**The LORD kills and makes alive**; He brings down to the grave and brings up.
- **2 Kings 5:7** <sup>7</sup> And it happened, when the king of Israel read the letter, that he tore his clothes and said, “**Am I God, to kill and make alive**, that this man sends a man to me to heal him of his leprosy?”
- **Acts 26:8** <sup>8</sup> Why should it be thought incredible by you that **God raises the dead**?
- **2 Corinthians 1:9** <sup>9</sup> Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in **God who raises the dead**,

# Doctrine of The Two Resurrections

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## 1. Spiritual Resurrection

- On Salvation – v.24 – “...passed from death into life”
- “Born again”

## 2. Physical Resurrection

- **Believers** – new bodies fit for Heaven (Phil 3:20-21; Rev. 21-22)
- **Unbelievers** - Great White Throne Judgement – receive new bodies suited for eternal lake of fire (Rev. 20:11-15)
- Resurrection is discussed in many scriptures such as:
  - Heb. 11:17-19 (Abraham); Job. 14:14; 19:25-27; Dan. 12:2; Hos. 13:14; Mark 12:25-27; 1 Cor. 15:55; Luke 14:14; John 6:39; 11:25; Acts 4:2

## John 5:25

# Paradoxical – “Hour is coming and now is”

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- “**now is**” – refers to the SPIRITUAL BIRTH, no longer dead in sin.
  - Eph 2:1; 5-6; Col 2:13; Rom. 6:5-11; 13, Matt 8:22
  - **UNBELIEVERS** are described as **SPIRITUALLY DEAD & BLIND** – insensitive to the things of God, enemies of God.
  - 1 Cor. 2:14; 2 Cor. 4:3-4; Eph. 2:2-3
- “**hour is coming**” – resurrection of our PHYSICAL BODIES is in the future - 1 Cor. 15:35-54; Phil 3:20-21
- “**those who hear will live**” – means in the sense of true faith and obedience to the Gospel

## John 5:26-29

# Physical Resurrection

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- If all these teachings weren't enough astonishing facts, Jesus now says "do not marvel at this" ...that He will one day in the future raise the dead from their graves!!
- The resurrection is not all once, it's in 2 parts
  - 1. Believers** – Souls are in heaven now with the Lord, but before the Millennium the righteous will be given heavenly bodies fit for eternity – **2 Cor. 5:6-8; Luke 14:14; Rev. 20:4-6**
  - 2. Unbelievers** – Souls are in Hades now in torment and will be raised for the Great White Throne judgement after the 1,000 year Millennium and given bodies fit for eternity in the lake of fire– **Luke 16:22-23; Rev. 20:4-6**

## John 5:26-29

# Physical Resurrection of Believers

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## 2 Corinthians 5:7-8

- **7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.** **8** We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be **absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.**

## Luke 14:14

- **14** And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the **resurrection of the just.**”

## Revelation 20:4-6 (Millennial Reign – 1,000 years)

- **4** And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. **Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.** **5** But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. **This is the first resurrection.**

## John 5:29

# Deeds – Principles of Judgement

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## • **Good Deeds - The Christian**

- The evidence of salvation – “**fruit**” – should have eternal value that displays love and points people to Christ.
- Works do not save, but provide basis for judgement
- Judgement Seat of Christ - rewards; reaping & sowing
- Highest deed is seeking glory for God, in motive too.
- [Rom 2:5-10](#); [Ps 62:12](#); [Isa 3:10-11](#); [Jer 17:10](#); [32:19](#); [Matt 16:27](#); [Gal 6:7-9](#); [Rev 20:12](#); [22:12](#); [Luke 12:42-48](#)

## • **Evil Deeds – Unsaved**

- Those who reject the Son- **Motive is selfish ambition**
- Evil deeds also judged indicating different levels of torment in hell – [Rev. 20:12](#); [Rom 2:5-10](#) – talks of **Accumulated Wrath**

# The Judgement Seat of Christ

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**Judgment of Believers** Resurrected believers will be judged for their works at the time of Christ's Second Coming or the beginning of the millennium (**Rom. 14:10; Matt 16:27; Rev. 22: 12;** Luke 14:14 ).

- **2 Cor. 5:10** - <sup>10</sup> For we (**Christians**) must (**it is inevitable**) all (**it's universal**) appear (**a public display**) before the judgment seat of Christ (**Jesus who is judge**), that each one (**individual judgement**) may receive (**wages to be paid, exactly what is due & earned**) the things *done* (**works, not faith**) in the body (**thoughts, words and deeds**), according to what he has done (**impartial**), whether good (**reward**) or bad (**loss**)."
- Judgement is Necessary – man is not capable of discerning the thoughts, intents and motives of the heart.- **1 Cor. 4:3-5**
- **Salvation is by grace through faith** ,but **Reward is based on the believer's works** – **Rev. 2:23; 1 Cor. 3:8; Matt. 16:27**
- **\*1 Cor. 3:8-15\*** - Sin is not in view at this judgment, as that was paid for by Christ, but only faithfulness in Christian service. Selfish works or those done with wrong motives will be burned up ("**wood, hay, and stubble**" of ). Works of lasting value to the Lord will survive ("**gold, silver, and precious stones**"). "Fruit" as in Parable of Sower, **John 15:1-11, 16. Fire will be applied to test the works, and rewards given.**
- Judgement is only for those on the "**foundation**" (Christians who are saved). Works before salvation are not recognized, no matter how good they were. We are all building a structure on a foundation whether we realize it or not. The building depends entirely on the materials used – "take heed" how you build it. Salvation is assured, the foundation is not tried, only the building or the believer's works are judged. Both reward and loss are plainly taught – therefore it's possible to be saved and still suffer loss.
- **Rewards (compared to "crowns")** (**Rev. 3:11**) will be given conditional on approved SERVICE and will not be worn by all. Christians are urged to "race" for the 8 crowns. (**1 Cor. 9:24-25; Hebrews 12:1-2; Rev. 3:11**)

**(Note: The Great White Throne Judgment** - Rev. 20:11–15. This final judgment of **unbelievers** for their sins occurs at the **end of the Millennium** - unbelievers are judged by Jesus Christ for their sins and consigned to the lake of fire.)

**See Class on "The Judgement of God"** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sgPsArqKNU&feature=youtu.be>

# Savior or Judge – Which will it be?

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- **Jesus is our Saviour if you Believe**
  - Should make you want to **LOVE** Him
- **Jesus is our Judge if you don't believe.**
  - Should make you **FEAR** Him



John 5:30-47

# Witnesses to Deity of Christ

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- 1. Jesus Himself - v.30**
- 2. John the Baptist – v.33-35**
- 3. Jesus' Works – v.36**
- 4. The Father – 37-38**
- 5. Scripture – v.39-47**

Jesus defends why He has the Authority to heal on the Sabbath by claiming Equality with the Father and therefore His right to work on the Sabbath. There is no excuse not to believe.

## John 5:30-32

# Witness of Jesus Himself

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- V.30 – Summarizes Jesus’s earlier claim to be equal to the Father. Since Jesus always acted on His Father’s will, to accuse Jesus of doing wrong is to accuse the Father as well.
- V.31 – does not mean that His self-witness is unreliable (John 8:14), but since the Jewish authorities did not believe Him, He offers more evidence (Deut. 19:15 – 2 or 3 witnesses needed).

## John 5:33-35

# Witness of John the Baptist

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- John the Baptist was recognized as God's true prophet by everyone and he clearly said He was a witness to Jesus as prophesied in Isaiah and Malachi. Even the authorities acknowledged John's importance by sending a delegation to hear him. This fact carried very considerable weight.
  - John 1:19 says **"This is the testimony of John..."**
  - John 1:32 says **"And John bore witness..."**
  - John 1:29 John declares Jesus is **"The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world..."**
  - John 1:34 **"And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God"**
- While no one denied John's significance, they didn't like his message of repentance, hypocrisy and Jewish baptism.

## John 5:36

# Witness of Jesus' Works

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- Despite John's witness being very convincing, only Jesus performed supernatural miracles.
- John 3:2 – Nicodemus confesses that His works could only be done by God.
- Jesus repeatedly said in the Gospels that His miracles were meant to confirm His claim to be the Son of God.
- Miracles were only supernatural, but in perfect keeping with God's will, therefore serving as teachings too.
- **Why is it people even today can see Jesus' power, but still deny Him?** (clue - Rom. 8:16; 1 John 5:9-10)

## John 5:37-38

# Witness of The Father

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- God the Father gave verbal testimony to the Son at both His Baptism and Transfiguration.
- **“This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased”**  
(Mark 1:11; Matt 3:17; 2 Peter 1:17)
- Those who reject the Son cannot know the Father (John 5:23; 8:19; 14:6; 15:23)
- **What does this mean when people who claim to be “Spiritual” and believe in “God” and say they pray and hear from God, yet they reject Jesus and the Bible?**

## John 5:39

# Witness of Scripture

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- **“You search the scriptures...”** - ironically, even though the Pharisees prided themselves on scriptural knowledge, they were not believing them with their heart and acting on them, and failed to grasp that the scripture testify of Him.
- The Bible cannot be understood without the Holy Spirit  
**2 Cor. 4:4-6** – Spiritual Blindness
- Jesus shockingly identifies their accuser as Moses, since Moses, the one they had set their hope in, wrote about Him
  - **Deut. 18:15** “The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear,”

## John 5:39

# Witness of Scripture

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- If they rejected Moses' writings, who they revered, it's not surprise they rejected Jesus' teachings.
  - **Luke 24:27;** “ And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”
  - **Luke 16:27-31** “But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’ ”